

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

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NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-06 SS-15 SP-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, SENV, ECLA

SUBJECT: UN WATER CONFERENCE, ECLA REGIONAL PREPARATORY
MEETING, LIMA, AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 3

USUN FOR SEIFMAN

BUENOS AIRES FOR WILCOX

FOLLOWING IS GUIDANCE FOR US DELEGATION TO SUBJECT MEETING.

1. GENERAL POSTURE. USDEL SHOULD TAKE LOW KEY BUT CON-
STRUCTIVE AND POSITIVE ROLE AT THIS MEETING. DELEGATION
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SHOULD, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER ARRIVAL (I.E. AS EARLY
AS INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS CALLED FOR AUGUST 28), ESTABLISH

CLOSE WORKING RAPPORT WITH IGLESIAS, CANO, AND MAGEED AND ENCOURAGE JOINT EFFORT TO KEEP FOCUS OF MEETING ON SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS. DELEGATION MAY POINT TO EXAMPLE OF EARLIER ESCAP REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING AS ONE WHICH DID FOCUS EXCLUSIVELY ON PROPER SUBJECT MATTER. DELEGATION SHOULD ACTIVELY SUPPORT EFFORTS TO WORK TOWARD CONSENSUS IN WHICH WE CAN JOIN. IF AND AS NECESSARY, DELEGATION SHOULD MAKE THE POINT THAT SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF THE CONFERENCE WILL DEPEND ON ITS ABILITY TO FOCUS ON GLOBAL WATER PROBLEMS AND NOT BECOME ENTANGLED IN SECTIONAL OR BILATERAL DISPUTES, WHICH EVENTUALITY COULD DESTROY POSSIBILITY OF GENERAL BENEFITS WHICH MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO ENSUE FROM SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE.

2. ACTION PROPOSALS. USDEL SHOULD TAKE BROAD VIEW THAT VARIETY OF ACTION PROPOSALS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY CONFERENCE AND DESERVE TO RECEIVE CAREFUL REVIEW BY OTHER REGIONAL BODIES PRIOR TO CONFERENCE. THUS DELEGATION MAY JOIN IN FINAL CONSENSUS WHICH COULD INCLUDE A NUMBER OF ACTION PROPOSALS NOT YET FULLY STUDIED. IN EXPLANATION OF POSITION, USDEL SHOULD STATE THAT JOINING OF SUCH CONSENSUS DOES NOT IMPLY U.S. ENDORSEMENT OF THESE PROPOSALS, BUT ONLY AGREEMENT THAT THEY SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY CONFERENCE AND APPROPRIATE PREPARATORY BODIES.

3. EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES (E.G. NIEO, CERDS, PANAMA CANAL, PUERTO RICO, PLO, ETC.). USDEL SHOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MINIMIZE INTRUSION OF SUCH ISSUES, TAKING POSITION THAT THEY ARE BEING PROPERLY DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE AND, IF ALLOWED TO BECOME FOCUS OF DISCUSSION HERE, COULD ONLY DAMAGE PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE. DELEGATION SHOULD AVOID DETAILED DEBATE ON ANY OF THESE ISSUES, BUT SHOULD BE ALERT TO POINT OUT (IF NECESSARY, TO REGRET AND DEPLORE) THEIR INTRUSION INTO WORK OF PREPARATORY MEETING. IF NECESSARY DURING COURSE OF MEETING DELEGATION SHOULD SEEK ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS ON THESE MATTERS, PARTICULARLY IF ANY OF THEM IS APT TO BE MENTIONED IN FINAL REPORT IN LANGUAGE WHICH IS SPECIFICALLY CRITICAL OF U.S. OR IS UNACCEPTABLE TO US.

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4. FRAMEWORK SET BY KEY DOCUMENT. THE REGIONAL REPORT (ST/CEPAL/CONF.57/L2) IS CONCERNED EXCLUSIVELY WITH WATER SITUATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN. REPORT CONTAINS ONLY ONE REFERENCE TO U.S. AND THAT IN TERMS OF U.S.-MEXICO BOUNDARY WATERS. WITHIN THESE TERMS, MEETING IS CLEARLY NOT DESIGNED TO ADDRESS NORTH AMERICAN WATER INTERESTS, WHICH ARE INSTEAD COVERED IN ECE REGIONAL REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR ECE MEETING SEPTEMBER 27-OCTOBER 1. ACCORDINGLY, ECLA SESSION SHOULD PROPERLY BE VIEWED

AS OPPORTUNITY FOR LATIN COUNTRIES TO DECIDE UPON COMMON WATER INTERESTS WITHOUT MAJOR INPUTS AND ATTEMPTED INFLUENCE BY U.S., CANADA OR OTHER NON-LATIN COUNTRIES; AND DELEGATION SHOULD, IN GENERAL, LIMIT INTERVENTIONS TO (A) OPENING STATEMENT WHICH IDENTIFIES U.S. INTEREST IN LEARNING OF LATIN NEEDS AND DESIRES AS BASIS OF SHAPING OUR POSITIONS, DESCRIBES OUR OWN PREPARATORY EFFORTS, AND IDENTIFIES SOME OF OUR CURRENT PRIORITY INTERESTS; (B) BRIEF COMMENTS ON SELECTED SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA TOPICS WHERE U.S. VIEWS ARE EXPRESSLY REQUESTED OR WHERE DELEGATION CAN PROVIDE ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND OR INFORMATION; AND (3) OBJECTION TO INTRODUCTION OF ANY EXTRANEEOUS TOPICS AT TIME OF FIRST APPEARANCE.

5. U.S. PREPARATIONS. THESE ARE DESCRIBED IN STATE 180694 (PREVIOUSLY REPEATED TO USUN AND BUENOS AIRES). DELEGATION MAY DRAW ON THIS BACKGROUND, EMPHASIZING THAT WE HAVE A NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE WATER CONFERENCE ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND THE U.S. WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL. FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES, ACADEMIC, INDUSTRY AND PRIVATE NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE ALL PARTICIPATING. U.S. PLANNING CENTERS AROUND TOPICS BEING ADDRESSED IN 17 MAJOR THEME PAPERS. AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF UN CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT, AN ATTEMPT IS BEING MADE TO RELATE PAPERS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF LDCS. THIS IS WHY PARTICIPATION IN ECLA MEETING, AS WELL AS ESCAP PREPARATORY SESSION LAST MONTH, IS DEEMED IMPORTANT. DELEGATION MAY GO ON TO POINT OUT THAT U.S. PREPARATIONS ARE BEING TIMED TO PROVIDE INPUT INTO ECE REGIONAL REPORT AT MEETING NEXT MONTH OF ECE COMMITTEE ON WATER PROBLEMS, A BODY IN WHICH U.S. HAS HISTORICALLY PARTICIPATED.

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6. SPECIFIC U.S. INTERESTS (AS REFLECTED IN THEME PAPERS). THESE INCLUDE FOLLOWING:

A. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WATER QUALITY AND WATER QUANTITY PLANNING.

B. DETECTION AND CONTROL OF POLLUTION, PARTICULARLY FROM TOXIC SUBSTANCES.

C. IMPACT OF FUTURE WATER DEMAND SUPPLY ON WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION.

D. PROVISION OF SAFE DRINKING WATER FOR URBAN AND RURAL POPULATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN RELATION TO RESOLUTIONS OF HABITAT CONFERENCE.

E. EXPANDING WATER AVAILABILITY, WITH EMPHASIS ON ASSESS-

ING POTENTIAL AND LIMITATIONS OF DESALINATION AND WEATHER MODIFICATION.

F. NEW PRINCIPLES AND METHODS FOR FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF SMALL WATERSHEDS.

G. IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING OF NATIONAL PROGRAMS OF RESEARCH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING, AND WATER DATA EXCHANGE.

H. WATER REQUIREMENTS FOR FUTURE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.

I. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF SIMPLE AND LOW COST AS WELL AS MORE SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGIES, INCLUDING DOMESTIC WATER TREATMENT AND REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS.

J. PRINCIPLES FOR BOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT (U.S. AND CANADA JOINTLY PREPARING PAPER).

K. ALLOCATION OF WATER FOR RECREATION, TOURISM AND CONSERVATION OF LIVING RESOURCES.

7. DELEGATION SHOULD PROVIDE WHATEVER INSIGHTS IT CAN ON FOLLOWING TOPICS, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED DURING SESSION OR IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH CANO, MAGEED, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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OLIVER AND IGLESIAS:

A. ARGENTINE PLANS FOR EXPOSITION AND CONCURRENT TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS. WE WISH TO KNOW EXTENT OF COUNTRY INTERESTS IN THESE ACTIVITIES AND ANY SPECIFIC PLANS TO PARTICIPATE. CANO HAS ASKED FOR U.S. SUPPORT, BUT DID NOT PROVIDE MANY DETAILS. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT TECHNICAL SEMINARS COULD DETRACT FROM MAIN WORK OF CONFERENCE, AND THAT THEY WILL BE USED TO LIMIT NGO PARTICIPATION.

B. PROVISION FOR NGO PARTICIPATION BY GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA INCLUDING SPECIFICS. U.S. HAS BEEN PUSHING FOR A MAXIMIZING OF OPPORTUNITIES AND WE WISH TO CONTINUE.

C. EXTENT AND DEPTH OF LATIN INTEREST IN CONFERENCE, INCLUDING LEVEL AND MAKE-UP OF DELEGATIONS AS CAN BEST BE DETERMINED. THIS SHOULD INCLUDE ANY INSIGHTS INTO LATIN VIEWS OF WORK OF CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT AND PERFORMANCE OF MAGEED.

D. NATURE AND SOURCE OF ANY CONCERN ABOUT PUBLIC SAFETY ASPECT OF HOLDING CONFERENCE IN ARGENTINA NEXT MARCH. NGO GROUP PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS AND WE HAVE HEARD ISOLATED SUGGESTIONS THAT CONFERENCE BE POSTPONED OR RELOCATED.

E. EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES WHICH MAY EMERGE AT CONFERENCE, INCLUDING BRAZIL-ARGENTINA WATER DISPUTE OR ANY OTHERS. KISSINGER

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